

without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1072) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MCCAIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, we now have an understanding with Senator UDALL that he would be recognized first tomorrow morning to call up amendment No. 1107.

I ask unanimous consent that when we come in tomorrow morning, Senator UDALL be recognized after the leaders are recognized to call up that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. It is my understanding that Senator UDALL has also agreed to a half hour equally divided—debate, equally divided?

Mr. LEVIN. That is my understanding.

We will leave that issue for the closing statement, that he be recognized. First, I agree with the Senator from Arizona that we agree there be a half hour equally divided on the amendment. But let's leave the exact wording on that for the closing.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MERKLEY). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LEVIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING FREDERIK MEIJER

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I wish to speak to mark the passing of Frederik Meijer, one of Michigan's most distinguished leaders in business and philanthropy. Barbara and I were saddened to learn of his passing on Friday at the age of 91. It is by no means an overstatement to say that Fred Meijer changed the face of our State, and the legacy he leaves will continue to affect us in Michigan and America and beyond for decades hence.

Most Michiganders know him best through the business he built, one of the largest family owned companies in the Nation. Fred grew up working long

hours in the Greenville, MI, grocery store that his father, an immigrant from Holland, opened in 1934. Over the next three decades the business grew until, in 1962, Fred and his father expanded from groceries into general merchandise. They called their new store "Thrifty Acres," and it led the way to the supercenter retail stores that are now so much a part of the American consumer's daily experience. Today, Grand Rapids-based Meijer, Inc. has more than 200 stores across the Midwest, and the company is a major part of the West Michigan economy.

But Fred Meijer was not content to be just a pioneering entrepreneur. As the company grew, so did his lifelong drive to make the world around him a better place. He was an early and eager supporter of the civil rights movement. He was deeply involved in efforts by the Urban League to promote education and equal opportunity.

One of his many lasting legacies is the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Foundation. Established in 1993, the foundation embodies Fred's commitment to ensuring that art and beauty are available to everyone. The park and gardens that the foundation supports house his collection of sculpture, one of the finest collections anywhere in the world, and places it in surroundings of incredible natural beauty.

Beyond the foundation, over the years he made generous gifts to support recreation and conservation efforts, schools and colleges and dozens of other institutions and charitable efforts across the State. There are few residents of our State who have not been touched in some way by his generosity. I have seen firsthand that generous and independent spirit, and I shall personally miss him, and personally feel the gap his passing has left in our State.

Barbara and I send our condolences to his wife Lena, his partner in life and business and philanthropy; their sons Hank, Doug and Mark; their seven grandchildren; and the multitude of those who will miss Fred's immense presence. He will indeed be missed. What a man. What a life. What a force for good in the world.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CORPORAL ZACHARY REIFF

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, since the Senate last convened, I have learned of the loss of a brave Iowan who was defending freedom overseas. Marine Corporal Zachary Reiff was wounded during combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan and later succumbed to his wounds. This news has hit the close knit community of Preston, IA very hard. My prayers go out to all who knew Zach, particularly his parents Marcia and Matt, as well as his brother Kolby and his sister Emily. By all accounts, he was active in school, having played football, wrestled, and ran track as well as participating in school plays. As such, there

was certainly no shortage of people in the community with memories to share. It is also evident that Zach is well thought of judging by the outpouring of good will following the news that he had been wounded. Zach is described as a caring person. Certainly, the beaming smile in many pictures posted on a Facebook prayer page in his honor makes even those who didn't know him wish that they had.

Friends say that Zach was proud to serve his country and liked his work. Zach Reiff is one of those special Americans who throughout our history have not hesitated to put their life on the line for the Stars and Stripes and everything it stands for. Our country is truly blessed to have patriots such as Zach Reiff. We owe him more than we can express and we have an obligation to remember him and his sacrifices in the name of liberty.

CUT ENERGY BILLS AT HOME ACT

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Cut Energy Bills at Home Act, which Senator SNOWE, Senator BINGAMAN and I have introduced. It has been a pleasure to work again with Senators SNOWE and BINGAMAN on an important piece of energy legislation. We have written this bill in a fully cooperative process, and my colleagues have been especially accommodating of changes requested by California's experts; I thank my colleagues for their efforts.

This legislation would put the construction industry back to work by creating a homeowner tax credit for home renovations that increase the energy efficiency of the home by at least 20 percent. The tax credit would increase in size with every 5 percent in additional energy efficiency improvement achieved. Homeowners who improved the efficiency of their home by more than 50 percent will qualify for a maximum credit of \$5,000.

This legislation helps address the continued high unemployment in the construction sector while making a long-term investment in America's building infrastructure. The construction industry has the highest unemployment rate of any sector nationally, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The current residential building stock exceeds demand, making a rapid recovery in new housing starts unlikely. According to the Census Bureau, 14.3 percent of the housing units in the United States in the second quarter of 2011 were vacant, even as prices continue to drop.

Thus the construction industry needs jobs, but artificially stimulating construction of new homes would exacerbate a situation of oversupply and depress home prices further.

Our Nation's buildings also need the upgrade. Buildings account for about 40 percent of the U.S. energy appetite, as well as 40 percent of its carbon dioxide

emissions, according to the Department of Energy. However, the consulting firm McKinsey and Company has found that improving building energy efficiency is one of the most cost effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Since 1974, California has used mandates, regulations and incentives to hold its per capita energy consumption essentially constant, while energy use per-person for the United States overall has jumped 50 percent.

This legislation provides a solution by stimulating the renovation of existing homes.

This is a jobs bill that provides incentives to reward energy efficient renovations that will create jobs in the construction sector, avoid increasing the supply of housing beyond demand, decrease energy use and reduce pollution, and expand the market for efficient technology and products.

This bill would create the first tax incentive for energy efficiency home renovation based on the energy performance of the home rather than the cost of the equipment.

This concept, which Senator SNOWE and I first proposed in 2007 as part of the Extend Act, is recommended by most energy efficiency experts.

Current policy allow homeowners to claim credits for the purchase of energy efficient insulation, windows, doors, heaters, air conditioners and water heaters. This approach is very expensive, largely due to claims filed for windows.

By restructuring the credit to apply to whole-home energy renovations that reward energy efficiency performance instead of the cost of equipment, this proposal has the potential to increase effectiveness while substantially lowering costs.

The legislation also includes provisions to ensure effectiveness and prevent abuse. The work must be done by a contractor who must sign an affidavit certifying the work was done and submit photographs of the work. The contractor must use certified, computer-based energy efficiency measurement tools. The credit would be limited to renovations of primary residences that do not increase the size of the home, and the credit would be capped at no more than 30 percent of the cost of renovation, to prevent homeowners from making large claims for relatively inexpensive renovations. As a tax credit, all claims would also be subject to IRS audits.

The bill is supported by the California Energy Commission, the Alliance to Save Energy, Efficiency First, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy and the Natural Resource Defense Council.

By offering incentives for energy efficient renovations, this bill helps create jobs in California's ailing construction sector while at the same time decreasing energy use and pollution.

This sort of investment, putting Americans back to work while leaving

behind lasting improvements, is the type of legislation on which Congress should be spending time.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING HARRY PACHON

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I wish to honor Harry Pachon, one of our Nation's most dedicated scholars and civil rights leaders, who passed away on November 4, 2011.

Harry Pachon was born to immigrant parents in Miami, FL, in 1945 and spent part of his childhood in Colombia. He returned to the United States, where he completed high school in Montebello, CA, and earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in political science from California State University, Los Angeles, and a Ph.D. in government from Claremont Graduate University.

Mr. Pachon dedicated his life to public service and fought tirelessly to elevate the role of the Latino community in politics. After serving as the chief of staff for Los Angeles Representative Edward R. Roybal, Harry became a founding board member and executive director of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials. Beginning in 1993, Mr. Pachon became the president of the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute in California. Under his leadership, the institute conducted groundbreaking research on key issues facing the Latino community, including immigration, education, and political participation, and brought national attention to the needs of Latinos. In 2003, the institute moved to the University of Southern California, where Harry was a beloved and respected professor of public policy.

I invite all of my colleagues to join me in honoring Harry Pachon and extending our deepest condolences to his wife Barbara; his children, Marc, Melissa, Nicholas, and Andrew; and his four grandchildren. He will be deeply missed.●

REMEMBERING DANIEL G. MCKAY

• Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Daniel G. McKay who passed away on November 10, 2011. It is with deep sorrow that I offer my condolences, to his wife Sharron for the loss of her beloved husband, to his two sons: Dan Jr. and Mark, and to his three grandchildren: Jesse, Dana and Danny.

A native of St. Louis, MO, Dan grew up in north St. Louis and attended Central High School. He began his career after high school as a truck driver and worked for over 30 years as a driver for several local companies.

Dan assumed leadership in the Teamsters and spent much of his life and career working tirelessly to secure the rights of working men and women. Within Teamsters' Local 600, Dan held several leadership positions including

business representative, recording secretary and President. His passion for helping others also led Dan to become President of Teamsters Joint Council 13 in 2002, representing over 25,000 Teamster families in Missouri. Dan also held several positions in the Missouri Kansas Nebraska Conference of Teamsters. He retired from both Local 600 and Joint Council 13 in March, 2010.

It is with great humility and respect that I honor Dan today. His dedicated leadership improved the work experience for many Missourians, and under Dan's leadership the Teamsters organized and educated workers so they would know their workplace rights and could participate fully in our democratic society.

Dan touched the lives of many, and improved the quality of life in the community at large. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters has lost a friend and an advocate, and I have lost a dear friend, advisor, and confidant.

Dan was afraid of no one when it came to defending his friends or confronting his adversaries. When I explained to him one time that his political support of me was going to cause him trouble, he said, "Nothing that I can't handle. We are in this together."

Dan will certainly be remembered for his gruff but engaging personality as well as for his many accomplishments. Dan was tough, but under that tough exterior was a huge heart filled with love for his family, for his community and for his brothers and sisters in labor.

Dan's life and commitment to others serve as an inspiration to me and to all Missourians. Our State has truly lost a leader and a hero.

I extend my deepest sympathies and sincerest condolences to Dan's family in their time of bereavement, and I invite the Senate to join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of this son of Missouri.●

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO TAKE ADDITIONAL STEPS WITH RESPECT TO THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY ORIGINALLY DECLARED ON MARCH 15, 1995 IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12957 WITH RESPECT TO IRAN, RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON NOVEMBER 21, 2011—PM 35

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the "order") that takes additional steps with respect to the national